

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1-2, 4, 7-8, and 11-22 are amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the September 20, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 4, 15, 18 and 21 because of informalities. Applicants have amended claims 4, 15, 18 and 21 in view of the Examiner's comments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objection should be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by Wynn, U.S. Patent No. 6,629,137 (hereinafter Wynn). The Examiner rejected claims 3, 6-10, 13, 16, 19, and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Wynn in view of George Abe, "Residential Broadband, Second Edition", Cisco Press, December 23, 1999. (hereinafter Abe). (*September 20 Office Action, pages 6-7*) Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in view of the claims as amended.

Independent claim 1, as amended, now recites:

A device connectable to a network for use in directing data, comprising:
a single interface that is provided for interfacing with the network, and that is allocated with a plurality of physical addresses registered for physically discriminating from other devices; and

a processor that executes a receiving process and a transmitting process of data through the single interface, wherein

the receiving process includes:

receiving data having a physical address indicating a destination of the data;

comparing the physical address of the received data with the registered physical addresses;

completing the receiving process when the physical address of the received data matches with one of the registered physical addresses; and otherwise canceling the receiving process when the physical address of the received data

matches with none of the registered physical addresses, and wherein the transmitting process includes:
detecting a destination of data to be transmitted;
selecting one of the registered physical addresses according to the detected destination of the data to be transmitted; and
attaching the selected physical address to the data, thereby indicating an origin of the data.

The Wynn reference does not disclose, teach or suggest the device specified in independent claim 1, as amended. Unlike the device specified in independent claim 1, as amended, Wynn does not teach "*a single interface that is provided for interfacing with the network, and that is allocated with a plurality of physical addresses registered for physically discriminating from other devices*" or "*a processor that executes a receiving process and a transmitting process of data through the single interface.*"

Instead, Wynn discloses a network interface device 26a which is connected to an external, centralized access television (CATV) or cable network and a local network 22 (i.e. dual interfaces). (*Wynn; FIG. 1, and Col. 4, lines 59-68*). The network device disclosed in Wynn is distinct from the device specified in claim 1 because Wynn teaches a dual interface device which is not the same as a device that includes "*a single interface that is provided for interfacing with the network, and that is allocated with a plurality of physical addresses registered for physically discriminating from other devices*" and "*a processor that executes a receiving process and a transmitting process of data through the single interface.*" Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, as amended distinguishes over Wynn.

Claims 4, 7, and 11-22, as amended recite limitations similar to those in independent claim 1, as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4, 7, and 11-22 distinguish over Wynn for reasons similar to those set forth above

with respect to claim 1.

Claims 2-3, 5-6 and 8-10 depend from claims 1, 4, and 7, as amended, respectively. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3, 5-6 and 8-10 distinguish over Wynn for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1, 4 and 7, respectively..

With respect to claims 3, 6-10, 13, 16, 19 and 22, the Abe reference does not make up for the deficiencies of Wynn. The Abe reference discloses a data service system over cable which includes a DHCP client. However, the combination of Wynn and Abe does not disclose, teach, or suggest a device which includes “*a single interface that is provided for interfacing with the network, and that is allocated with a plurality of physical addresses registered for physically discriminating from other devices*” and “*a processor that executes a receiving process and a transmitting process of data through the single interface.*” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submits that independent claims 3, 6-10, 13, 16, 19 and 22, as amended distinguish over Wynn in combination with Abe.

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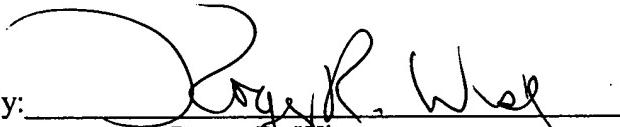
Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles, California telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference call would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 20, 2005

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